

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/15494

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

The technical feature common to claims 1-18 is a light guide plate defined in claim 1. The international search, however, has revealed that this light guide plate is not novel since it is disclosed in document JP 2002-71965 A (Nitto Denko Corp.), 12 March, 2002 (12.03.02).

Consequently, the light guide plate defined in claim 1 is not a special technical feature within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence.

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl⁷ F21V8/00, G02B6/00, G02F1/13357//F21Y101:02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ F21V8/00, G02B6/00, G02F1/13357

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1922-1996	Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho	1996-2004
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971-2004	Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1994-2004

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication; where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 2002-71965 A (Nitto Denko Corp.), 12 March, 2002 (12.03.02),	1-3, 5, 10-12, 15, 18
Y	Full text; all drawings & US 2002-25314 A1	6, 7, 13, 14, 16, 17
X	JP 09-63331 A (Minebea Co., Ltd.), 07 March, 1997 (07.03.97),	1-5, 8-12, 15, 18
Y	Par. Nos. [0019] to [0025]; Fig. 1 (Family: none)	6, 7, 13, 14, 16, 17
Y	JP 2002-133907 A (Seiko Epson Corp.), 10 May, 2002 (10.05.02), Figs. 1 to 2 & US 2002-89840 A1 & EP 1209410 A1	6

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
 ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 04 March, 2004 (04.03.04)	Date of mailing of the international search report 23 March, 2004 (23.03.04)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Japanese Patent Office	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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PCT/JP03/15494

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 2002-197910 A (Hayashi Telempu Co., Ltd.), 12 July, 2002 (12.07.02), Par. No. [0028]; Figs. 1; member 8 (Family: none)	7
Y	JP 10-293202 A (Enplas Corp.), 04 November, 1998 (04.11.98), Par. No. [0046] (Family: none)	13
Y	JP 2002-43630 A (Matsushita Electric Works, Ltd.), 08 February, 2002 (08.02.02), Par. No. [0015] (Family: none)	13
Y	JP 2002-184231 A (Fujitsu Ltd.), 28 June, 2002 (28.06.02), Full text; all drawings & US 2002-15297 A1	14,16,17
Y	JP 2001-176317 A (Matsushita Electric Works, Ltd.), 29 June, 2001 (29.06.01), Full text; all drawings (Family: none)	14,16,17
X	JP 2002-6143 A (Nitto Denko Corp.), 09 January, 2002 (09.01.02), Full text & US 2002-15314 A1	1-3,5
X	JP 3-261988 A (Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd.), 21 November, 1991 (21.11.91), Full text; all drawings (Family: none)	1-3,5
A	JP 2001-110218 A (International Business Machines Corp.), 20 April, 2001 (20.04.01), Full text; all drawings & CA 2317820 A1 & CN 1291729 A	1-18